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12 August 54

MEMORANDUM TO: Mr. Houston

SUBJECT : Relocation of TSS Facilities located in
South Building Attic

1. TSS has a facility located in the attic of South Building which apparently should not be in an office building, and in particular a building housing the Director and other key officials of the Agency. This opinion is substantiated by the following documents:

a. Description of hazardous conditions and materials in South Building attic as furnished by TSS chemists, Tab A.

b. Fire and safety survey report, dated 30 July 53, prepared by an Agency Safety Officer, Tab B.

c. Safety and fire prevention survey, dated 15 February 54, made by Public Buildings Service Fire Prevention Engineer, Tab C.

d. Comments on safety and fire prevention survey, dated 28 April 1954, made by the Chief, TSS/SAD, Tab D.

e. Memorandum from Director of Security to Chief, TSS, dated 30 July 54, subject: "Relocation of TSS/SAD Facilities Presently Located in South Building Attic", Tab E.

2. Tabs A thru C, inclusive, clearly point out the dangers and hazards of this facility not only to TSS personnel but also to the other occupants of South Building and the adjacent area. The recommendation of the Public Buildings Service survey, Tab B, was that these operations be located in an adequately equipped and protected separate building, one story in height removed from the District of Columbia and/or other residential or congested area preferably in a remote urban location.

3. The Director of Security in his memo to TSS, Tab E, recommended "With due consideration to the previously noted facts, it is determined that this operation must be relocated to comply with the primary recommendation of the General Services Administration, namely, to relocate the laboratory in a more suitable and less densely populated area. This move will not only lessen the possibility of serious effects to Agency personnel and the public, but to the Director of Central Intelligence who is to occupy space in this building. The imperative need for completely secure and safe office space for the Director is, of

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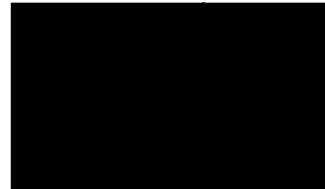
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course, of paramount importance. It is therefore requested that the laboratory be moved to suitable quarters before the DCI moves to South Building."

4. In view of the above, and in spite of the fact that over \$200,000 have been spent on alterations in order that this facility might occupy the South Building attic, it is recommended that this facility be immediately removed from this location and, if it is necessary, the DCI be requested to authorize such a move.



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